URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
BENTLEY-with-ARKSEY

Twenty-Fifth
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for 1949

by

J. T. BRIGGS
M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Russells (Mexborough) Ltd., Mexborough.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF

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SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1949

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Bentley,
Near Doncaster.
25th April, 1950.

To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1949.

The work of repairing the flood damaged property was completed during April of this year and the total cost for the 541 properties was £18,817 13s. 11d., the detailed costs are given in the body of the report.

In other respects the work has been of a more normal character with more time available for routine work.

There were changes during the year in the dairying industry, the control of the production side passing to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

I should like to express my thanks to the members of the staff for their help in this work, to the Chairman and Members of the Council and Dr. Ferguson for their unfailing support throughout the year.

Yours faithfully,
J. T. BRIGGS,
Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.
J. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary, Housing and Petroleum Inspector.
J. T. BRIGGS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate
Sanitary Science Certificate
Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate
Smoke Inspector's Certificate

Assistant Sanitary Inspector.
L. HAY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate.

Clerk.
J. COWLING (Miss).

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections
No. of visits made	4904	1041
,, complaints received	504	
,, complaints confirmed	401	
,, letters in lieu of notices ...	51	
,, informal notices	467	
,, statutory notices	72	
,, letters and notices outstanding on 31st December, 1949 ...	34	
,, matters referred to Surveyor	79	

Area : 4,961 acres.

Population 20,130.

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

Slaughterhouses	423	
Meat and Food Inspections	445	
Accumulations	4	1
Animals and Poultry	2	3
Backroads	2	
Bakehouses	25	
Cesspools	24	1
Closets - Water	145	61
Closets - Pail	62	
Cowsheds	93	6
Dairies	53	1
Drains	172	22
Drains tested	2	
Dustbins	212	260
Factories	63	
Fish Friers	20	
Food preparing places	34	
Food Stores and Shops	19	
Flooding		
Flood Repairs	211	
Houses re defects	34	
Houses re Scarlet Fever	42	
,, Diphtheria	4	
,, Tuberculosis	6	
,, Sub-Tenants	70	
,, Exchange	55	
,, Overcrowding	10	
,, Dirty conditions	22	30
,, Bugs	16	20
,, other Vermin	8	
Housing Act	—	87

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections
Ice Cream Premises	60	
Interviews	99	
Kitchens and Canteens	2	
Knackers Yards	27	
Licensed Premises - Clubs	10	
Moveable Dwellings	473	
Moveable Dwelling Sites	123	
Offensive Trades	27	
Petroleum	17	
Piggeries	12	
Prospective Council Tenants ...	176	
Rats and Mice	160	
Sampling :		
Ice Cream - Bacterial Test ...	68	
Milk - Bacterial Test	144	
Water - Bacterial Test	22	
Milk - Biological Test	1	
Milk - Chemical (Food & Drugs)	34	
Water - Chemical Test	13	
Sanitary Inspections	209	427
Sewage Works	12	
Sewers	18	
Shops Act	156	
Smoke Observations	31	
Special Visits	462	
Streams and Watercourses	19	
Street Gullies and Channels	20	
Tips	26	
Urinals	20	
Vacated Council Houses	24	
Water Supplies	79	43
Wells	10	
Works in Progress	49	
Yards	23	79

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS.

HOUSES — INTERNAL	Normal	Flood
Baths renewed	1	
Bath waste pipes repaired	6	
Cellar grates renewed	1	
Coppers renewed	1	
Copper brickwork repaired	3	
Copper Furnaces repaired	3	
Cold Water tanks renewed	1	
Doors repaired or renewed	22	11
Doors rehanged	12	

	Normal	Flood
Electric Fittings renewed	8	
Fireplaces repaired	30	18
Fireplaces renewed	21	
Ovens renewed	16	
Firebacks renewed	6	
Fireback boilers renewed	2	
Firebars renewed	2	
Smokey flues cured	13	
Floors repaired	32	25
Floors renewed	3	
Gas fittings renewed	3	
Handrails refixed	5	
Hot water cylinders renewed	9	
Plasterwork repaired	79	18
Sinks re-set	1	
Sinks renewed	5	
Sinks provided	1	
Sinks waste pipes renewed	12	
Skirting Boards renewed	13	
Water pipes renewed	8	
Water pipes repaired	38	
Water taps renewed	24	
Washbasins renewed	7	
HOUSES - EXTERNAL		
Chimneys repaired	5	
Chimney pots renewed	5	
Damp walls cured	6	
Eaves spouts renewed	65	
Flashings renewed	7	
House walls repaired or repointed ...	8	
Rain Water pipes renewed	47	
Roofs repaired and renewed	62	
Roofs - Bay windows repaired ...	10	
Steps renewed	3	
Windows repointed	4	
Windows repaired	27	4
Window sashcords renewed	170	
Yards repaved	31	2
Yard walls rebuilt	6	26
Gates provided	1	5
Path pipes renewed	2	
Coalplace roofs repaired	1	
Coalplace doors and frames repaired	1	
Dirty houses cleansed	2	
Verminous houses cleansed :		
Bugs	4	
Other vermin	6	
Dustbins renewed	212	

	Normal	Flood
CLOSETS		
Basins renewed	17	
Seats renewed	6	
Doors and frames repaired	1	
Floors and steps repaired	2	
Cisterns repaired and renewed ...	25	
Flushing pipes renewed	3	
Roofs repaired	5	
Walls repaired	2	
New ones provided	5	
Pail closet abolished	1	
DRAINS		
Cleansed	120	
Constructed	11	
Reconstructed	16	
Inspection chambers repaired ...	1	
Inspection chamber covers renewed ...	2	
Inspection chambers provided ...	3	
Ventilation renewed	2	
COWSHEDS		
Constructed	1	
Walls cleansed	30	
Dairies constructed	1	
FACTORIES		
Food preparing places constructed ...	3	
Floors renewed	1	
Water closets provided	2	
GENERAL		
Animals and poultry removed	1	
Cesspools repaired	1	
Piggery rebuilt	1	
Pig bins removed	4	
Sewers cleansed	5	
Surface water drains cleansed ...	2	

Flood Repair Work.

The task of repairing the property damaged by the flood of 1947 was completed during April of this year, just over two years after the commencement of the flood.

The number of houses repaired was 537 and of business premises 4, making a total of 541. The total cost of the work was £18,817/13/11d. But for the Lord Mayor of London's Flood Fund the majority of these houses would have been left in a defective, if not a delapidated, condition, so the money spent has provided good housing conditions for a large number of people.

The detailed cost in each district is given below :

BENTLEY FLOODS, 1947.

PROPERTY REPAIRS.

Statement of Payments Made.

Road	No. of Houses Repaired	Amount per road £ s. d.	Average amount per House £ s. d.
Adwick Lane	1	2 4 0	2 4 0
Ainthorpe Road	14	122 4 10	8 14 7
Askern Road	59	2,810 11 5	47 12 8
Cavendish Road ...	2	128 2 9	64 1 4
Coney Road	35	2,314 0 9	66 2 3
Grange Road	24	2,548 9 9	106 3 4
Manor Road	34	2,399 9 10	70 11 6
Marton Road	26	185 13 4	7 2 10
Prospect Road	49	3,528 19 11	72 0 5
Hall Ville Lane	17	604 1 5	35 10 8
Toll Bar	261	14,654 18 0	56 2 9
Frank Road	5	68 14 5	13 14 10
Conyers Road	13	196 1 1	15 1 7
Yarborough Terrace	27	543 12 9	20 2 9
Hunt Lane	73	994 1 10	13 12 4
Riviera Parade	36	454 5 10	12 12 4
Riviera Mount	18	283 19 6	15 15 6
Willowbridge Road ...	4	26 9 9	6 12 5
Bentley Road	27	230 9 3	8 10 8
Town End	203	2,797 14 5	13 15 7
Arksey	73	976 13 6	13 7 7
Business Premises ...	4	388 8 0	97 2 0
Summary			
Toll Bar	261	14,654 18 0	56 2 9
Town End	203	2,797 14 5	13 15 7
Arksey	73	976 13 6	13 7 7
Total - Houses only ...	537	18,429 5 11	34 6 4
Total - Business Premises ...	4	388 8 0	97 2 0
GRAND TOTAL ...	541	18,817 13 11	34 15 8

Flooding.

There has been no risk of flooding during the year because of the absence of continuous heavy rains. The new surface water drainage works in Toll Bar have so far proved their value.

Work Carried out on Default of Owners.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 39.

Provision of eaves spouts and rain water fall pipes to six houses at a cost of £40 7s. 6d.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 75.

Dustbins supplied : 24.

Property Repairs.

The repairing of house property still remains a difficult problem, prices in many respects are still rising and the shortage of labour is still acute. Nevertheless, a great deal of work has been carried out.

Prosecutions in 1949.

Factories Act, 1937. Section 7.

Occupier of factory premises for provision of water closet accommodation for male employees - work to be carried out in three months - business given up. Costs allowed.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93.

Owner of two houses to repair defective roofs - case deferred and property sold in the interval, new owner gave undertaking to the court to do the work within three weeks. Work done. Costs allowed.

Housing Act 1936. Sections 9 and 10.

Owner of two houses for costs of repair work. Account paid. Costs allowed.

Public Health Act 1936. Section 269.

Owner of land for using land as a site for moveable dwellings without licences and exceeding the statutory period by a large margin. Fined £5 and costs and land to be cleared within fourteen days.

Shops Act.

This work was recommenced after suspension due to the floods. The shops generally were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

Thirteen samples of water were taken for chemical analysis, eleven of which were satisfactory and two of doubtful organic purity. The chief fault in these waters was the hardness which varied from 13 to 87 degrees. The public supply has been good and constant throughout the year.

Twenty-two samples were taken for bacterial test, one was unsatisfactory, and the remainder satisfactory. The unsatisfactory one came from a borehole which served one house.

Privies and Pail Closets.

All properties within reach of the sewers are connected. One privy was abolished and a water closet connected to a cesspool was installed. There are eight privies and twenty-five pail closets all out of reach of the sewers according to the survey of 1949.

Cleansing of Drains.

The arrangements made in 1942 for cleansing drains still continue and are working satisfactorily and such nuisances are rapidly abated.

Verminous Premises.

Bugs : Six Council houses were treated.

Ants : Seven Council houses and one privately owned house were treated.

Blackclocks, etc.—Seven Council houses were treated. One tip was treated for cricket with very good results.

D.D.T. and Gammexane have been in general use for the destruction of vermin with excellent results. Liquid D.D.T. has been used in food preparing places, slaughterhouses and cowsheds, in an effort to eliminate flies and the results have been very satisfactory.

Rodent Control.

This work has been carried out as in previous years with very good results. All the known places of recurrent infestation have been regularly inspected and treated when

necessary, sites have been cleared completely and the number of bodies found was lower than in former years. A partial test baiting the sewers was carried out but not one bait was touched.

No. of premises treated	60
No. of baiting points	261
No. of baits - poisoned	261
No. of baits - unpoisoned	1044
No. of dead rats found	280
Estimated kill - Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries formula	1670

Smoke Observations.

Thirty-one observation were taken of a chimney at the Bentley Colliery which is a consistent offender. Records of the observations have been sent to the management but there is no change for the better yet. I understand that long term plans are in hand covering the whole of the steam raising plant, but that nothing is intended as an immediate abatement of the nuisance.

Burning Colliery Tip.

The refuse heap to the one colliery in the district has been a serious nuisance, but towards the end of the year there was some improvement. The system of pumping and spraying water has been extended and made more efficient, and if persevered with the smoke and fumes should be almost eliminated.

Moveable Dwellings.

There are six sites containing thirteen vans which are licensed and kept in conformity with the Council's requirements. There has been a considerable increase in the number of vans staying in the district and using fields without essential sanitation and without licences. One site was occupied by over forty vans and tents for well over the statutory period, the owner was prosecuted and fined and ordered to clear the site within 14 days.

Offensive Trades.

Bone Boiler and Blood Drier 1

There was no new application for consent to the establishment of an offensive trade during the year.

Petroleum.

Twenty-nine licences were issued for the storage of petroleum in bulk.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS.

Dairymen, Cowsheds and Dairies.

Retailers taken off register	29
Retailers entered on register	—
Retailers of Bottled Milk—Sterilised ...	22
Retailers on register 31st December, 1949	12
Producers on register 30th September, 1949	18
Wholesalers on register 30th September, 1949	22
Cowsheds on register 30th September, 1949	34
Registered premises, 30th September, 1949	23

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 - 1948.

Dealers' licences for the sale of :	
Pasteurised Milk	7
Tuberculin Tested Milk	7
Supplementary licences for the sale of :	
Pasteurised Milk	2
Tuberculin Tested Milk	2

One cowshed and one dairy were formed out of existing farm buildings and a new drainage system constructed during the early part of the year.

On the 1st October, 1949, the control of the production of milk passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and that meant that inspection and supervision of cowsheds and dairies on farms passed out of the hands of local authorities. In my view this is a retrograde step as I feel that supervision will now be almost non-existent, and that sampling of milk for bacterial testing will be the only means of satisfying ourselves of the cleanliness or otherwise of the milk produced.

SUPERVISION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY.
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Slaughterhouses.

There are five slaughterhouses and one knackers yard licensed for use, one slaughterhouse is used exclusively for the slaughter of horses for human consumption. Private slaughtering ceased after January 1941, when war-time control of slaughtering was centralised in public abbattoirs.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

These have been properly observed with regard to notices.

Special notices from slaughterhouses	114
Special notices from other premises ...	30

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Humane slaughtering of all animals in accordance with the Act is in force throughout the district.

No. of slaughtermen's licences issued ...	24 ...

Milk Sampling.

Under the West Riding County Council's scheme your Sanitary Inspector carries out the sampling of milk in this area. During the year thirty-four samples were taken and all found to be genuine.

Food Preparing Premises.

Preparation or storage of Ice Cream ...	15
Preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods	16
Fish Friers	16

Fish Friers.

All premises were kept in a reasonable state of cleanliness. One person operates a mobile fish and chip shop from properly built and equipped premises, the potatoes are carried in small bins and the fish in enamel containers.

Meat and Food Inspections.

Visits to slaughterhouses	423
Inspection of Meat and Food	445
No. of condemnations	157
Animals slaughtered: Pigs	297
Horses	1622

Condemnations of Foodstuffs.

Fish - wet	154	lbs.
Fish - 29 tins	17	lbs.
Jams - 43 jars	43	lbs.
Fruit - frozen	5¼	lbs.
Vegetables - 12 tins	14½	lbs.
Tomatoes	34	lbs.
Meat Extracts and Beverages - 3 jars	2	lbs.
Sauces - 5 bottles	2¼	lbs.
Pickles - 3 jars	2¾	lbs.
Milk - 13 tins	12½	lbs.
Cheese	2	lb.
Butter	66	lbs.
Eggs - 96	11¾	lbs.
Cereals - 3 packets	2	lbs.
Meat - 33 tins	59¼	lbs.
Sausage and Black Puddings	18	lbs.
Bacon	12½	lbs.
Rabbits	210	lbs.
Pig - Carcase and Offal	200	lbs.
Horses - 28 Carcases and Offals	19717	lbs.
Horses - 5 Quarters	1008	lbs.
Horses - 101 Livers	1414	lbs.
Total	23007¾	lbs.

Ice Cream.

Registered Premises :

Manufacturers 1. Retailers 14.

Early in the year what has been described as the largest post-war ice cream making plant in Europe commenced operations and very soon was turning out 5,000 gallons of ice cream daily. Everything in use is of the latest type and design and the layout is such that there is a continuous flow in the process with the least obstruction or interference. There is also a well-equipped laboratory for the control of cleanliness during production which has already proved its worth as a prime factor in producing a bacteriologically pure ice cream.

Report on Ice Cream Samples.

Grading on Methylene Blue Test :

56 samples in Grade 1 — 72.7%
9 samples in Grade 2 — 11.7%
10 samples in Grade 3 — 13.0%
2 samples in Grade 4 — 2.6%

These samples were taken from all parts of the district and, with the exception of the two samples in Grade 4, the percentages in Grades 1 and 2 are above those suggested as being reasonably satisfactory by the sub-committee which enquired into the bacteriological grading of ice cream, whilst the figure for Grade 3 is well below the one suggested. The premises of all retailers are thoroughly inspected before being registered.

MILK.

Samples for Bacterial Test.

Type	No. of Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory
Ordinary Mlik	57	31	26
Graded Milk	59	47	12
Sterilised Milk	26	25	1
Biological - Raw Milk	1	—	1
Broken Bottle	1	—	—
TOTAL	144	103	40

Ordinary Milks.

Time of Decolourisation	Summer Time	Winter Time
Under 1 hour	2	1
Between 1 hour and 2 hours	4	—
Between 2 hours and 3 hours	2	1
Between 3 hours and 4 hours	7	2
Between 4 hours and 5 hours	3	2
Between 5 hours and 5½ hours	—	1
Satisfactory	12	18

Graded Milks.

No. of Samples	Type	Methylene Blue Test	Phospha-tase Test	Remarks
23	Pasteurised	Over 5½ hours	Group 1	Satisfactory
3	Pasteurised	Under 1 hour	1 Group 1 2 Group 2	Not Satisfactory
20	Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	Over 5½ hours	Group 1	Satisfactory
6	Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	Under 1 hour	Group 1	Not satisfactory
4	Tuberculin Testcd Certified	Over 5½ hours	—	Satisfactory
3	Tuberculin Tested Certified	Under 5½ hours	—	Not satisfactory

Sterilised Milk.

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test	Turbidity Test	Remarks
26	Over 5½ hours	Good	Satisfactory

One sample of raw milk for biological test was taken at the request of the School Medical Officer to trace the origin of tuberculosis in a family, two cows were found to be tuberculous and were destroyed.

The proportions of good and bad milks remain about the same as last year in a larger number of samples.

More use is being made of refrigerators by dairymen much to their advantage in the warmer weather.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1. Cases Notified and Investigated.

Cases notified 44

Cases removed to hospital 40

Classification

Scarlet Fever 44

Distribution.

Ward	Scarlet Fever	Total
Toll Bar	1	1
New Village	14	14
Arksey	3	3
Old Bentley	—	—
Bentley Road	10	10
North Road	16	16
TOTAL	44	44

2. Tuberculosis.

New notifications 31

No. on register 31st December, 1949 :

Pulmonary 117

Non-Pulmonary 49

3. Disinfections.

Houses 49

HOUSING.

Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding.

Some complaints were received about overcrowding, 10 of which were confirmed. It is not possible to help such cases unless they qualify for a house under the Council's housing scheme, or unless they come within the hardship clause at the Medical Officer's discretion.

Housing Acts 1925—1936 - Clearance Areas.

Of the clearance areas put in hand in 1937, two houses remain and one is still occupied. No further work has been done in this respect since the war commenced.